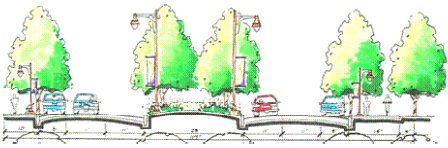


Greensboro Urban Area Transportation Plan



Why a New Transportation Plan?

Greensboro, the surrounding towns, and Guilford County are in a time of change. Area population has grown significantly over the last decade and will continue to grow in the years ahead. Growth offers positive opportunities, but also creates a range of challenges for the area, including to the development of a transportation system that

will meet community and regional needs. Growth, economic change, and evolving community priorities all point to the need for a plan update.

Developing a New Plan for the Area

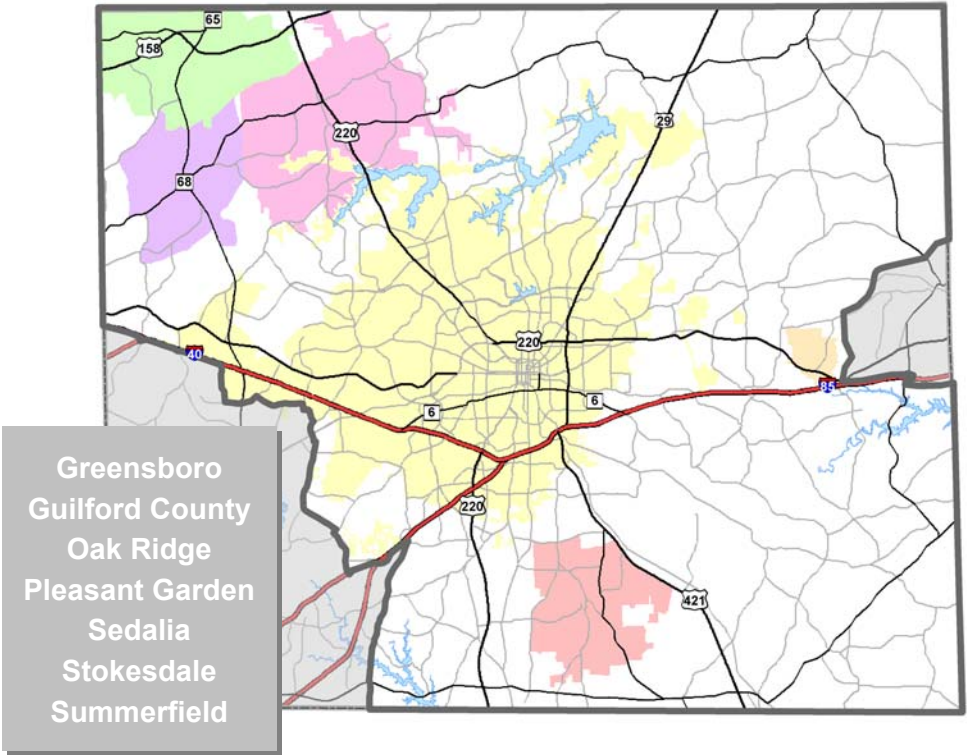
In recognition of the needs and demands that result from community growth and change, the Greensboro Urban Area Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) has begun an initiative to develop a new transportation plan to address the present and future needs of the planning area. The plan addresses all transportation modes, including highways, rails, transit, bicycles and pedestrians, and the connection to aviation.

The plan will:

1. Identify future roadway, public transportation, bicycle and pedestrian facility, and rail improvement needs;
2. Refine investment strategies in light of anticipated future resource availability and limitations; and
3. Address a range of public policy issues regarding the future transportation system.

Area planners have agreed that the transportation planning process must integrate with local and regional planning initiatives in an effort to make sure that the transportation plan for the future considers community vision, local corridor context, and environmental goals. Greater emphasis must be placed on the role of local transportation networks, planned land use, and identified natural, historic, and economic resources. An emphasis on innovative community involvement, inter-governmental partnerships, and a multi-disciplinary approach will be necessary to achieve this goal.

Transportation Plan Study Area



The study area includes the City of Greensboro, area towns, and much of Guilford County. The timeframe for the plan runs through the year 2030.

The plan will develop an investment plan built around a strategy for balancing transportation needs against reasonably expected future funding resources. The result will be a transportation plan that is grounded in fiscal reality rather than just a wish list of future transportation projects. The plan will also seek to support future public policy discussions by identifying significant transportation needs that might go unmet without future action to identify additional funding sources.

How Will This Plan Affect You?

Many have asked how this plan will affect the average citizen. The answer is that this plan will represent a future transportation vision for the area and will include a strategy for implementation. Whether you are interested in the location of new roads, the improvement of existing roads, providing bicycle and pedestrian amenities, community gateways, transportation

policies, or public transportation, there is something of interest in this plan for you. The plan will identify the transportation needs and priorities of the community and recognize the characteristics that you like about or desire for the area in which you live. But we aren't going to know what your priorities and vision are unless we hear from you!

Project Schedule and Public Involvement

Completion of the 2030 Transportation Plan is scheduled by September 30, 2004. This schedule includes many opportunities for the public to give input and to express their views. Regular web updates, as well as a series of newsletters, will be provided throughout the process. Planners also will be interviewing community leaders and advocates and conducting telephone interviews with residents in the vicinity.

The cornerstone of the public involvement activities will occur during a series of workshops to be held throughout the study area. Three rounds of workshops will be conducted, the first in November 2003, the second in February 2004, and the third in spring 2004. Announcements will be sent to individuals on our mailing list, and meetings will be advertised in local media.

Comments may be sent "Attn: LRTP" to the website or e-mail address listed below, or via fax to (336) 412-6171. If you are interested in receiving regular updates and participating in planning activities, please contact us to let us know:

Three rounds of workshops will be conducted:

- Round 1.....November 2003
Round 2.....February 2004
Round 3.....Spring 2004

www.greensboro-nc.gov/LRTP

Greensboro Metropolitan Planning Organization
E-mail: gdot@greensboro-nc.gov or
Phone: (336) 373-2332
Fax to: (336) 412-6171

What Topics Should We Focus On?

1. Create an interconnected system of local and collector streets to distribute traffic efficiently and improve mobility
2. Encourage streetscapes and attractive community gateways
3. Address neighborhood traffic safety and speed concerns through policy and design initiatives
4. Support mixed-use development and denser neighborhoods along key transit corridors in an effort to promote choice
5. Use flexible roadway design standards to support neighborhood character and quality of life
6. Enhance transit ridership through expanded service with a focus on quality passenger amenities
7. Focus on reducing congestion and travel times by widening and extending key roadways
8. Improve the accessibility and mobility of freight movements within and through the region
9. Protect rural and small town character
10. Promote a connected system of bicycle and pedestrian facilities using a combination of sidewalks, bike lanes, and greenways
11. Encourage a regional rapid transit service (i.e., bus rapid transit and commuter rail)
12. Others?

